

Abstract

In the case of circuit arrangements for operating discharge lamps (Lp1, Lp2) which include a charge pump for reducing line current harmonics, an energy imbalance occurs when the lamps are started. In order for this not to lead to components being destroyed, but for sufficient ignition voltage nevertheless to be generated at the lamps (Lp1, Lp2), a threshold switch (MOV, TH) monitors the frequency of an inverter included in the circuit arrangement.